

## CITY NEWS

Police Department 455 N. Main Wichita, KS 67202 (316) 268-4340 FAX (316) 268-4566 www.wichita.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: CONTACT: November 17, 2006 Sgt. Jerry Quick Traffic Sorgoant Pa

Traffic Sergeant - Patrol West

316-337-9400

\*\* News Release \*\*

## Police to focus on traffic safety as end-of-year holidays approach

With the approach of the end-of-year holiday season, Wichita Police Officers will be placing an additional emphasis on traffic safety November 20 through 26 throughout the city. This enforcement effort is a part of the statewide project under the Kansas Department of Transportation *Click It or Ticket* campaign.

"The day before Thanksgiving is the busiest travel day of the year," said Patrol West Traffic Sergeant Jerry Quick. "As we head into the winter holiday season, we want to ensure that everyone is buckled up and driving safely. We want motorists to arrive safely at their destinations so they can enjoy the holidays and not be struck by tragedy, or the loss or serious injury of a loved one."

This latest traffic enforcement effort by WPD and the Kansas Department of Transportation will focus on vehicle occupant safety and DUI violations, two factors that contribute to traffic accident fatalities. This enforcement campaign is an effort to reduce the number of drunk drivers and preventing further traffic fatalities. So far this year, the City of Wichita has recorded 32 traffic fatalities, ten of which involved motorcycles.

"We want people to understand the importance of using their seatbelts. And, we can't over-emphasize the importance of obeying traffic safety laws," said Quick. "The men and women of the Wichita Police Department are very serious about enforcing those laws. We want this holiday season to be a safe and happy one for motorists in the Wichita area."